

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 13, 19, and 23-44 were previously cancelled. Claims 4, 5, 7, 9-11, 16, 17, 21, 45, and 46 are withdrawn from prosecution. Claims 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, 18, 20, and 22 remain in the application. Reconsideration of the application in view of the remarks to follow is requested.

The Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 between Species I, including claims 4-12, 14-18 and 20-22, and Species II, including claims 45 and 46. Applicant elects Species I for prosecution.

The Examiner has further restricted Species I to the following:

Species A includes claims 4 and 5;

Species B includes claims 7 and 21;

Species C includes claims 8 and 22; and

Species D includes claims 9-11.

Applicant hereby elects Species C of Species I for prosecution. The Examiner states claims 6, 12, 14, 15, 18, and 20 are generic, and therefore, such claims are also available for examination on the merits.

Accordingly, Applicants request examination on the merits with respect to claims 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, 18, 20, and 22.


Further, Applicant herewith submits duplicate copies of the Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 filed together with this application on October 8, 2001, and Supplemental Information Disclosure Statements and Form PTO-1449s filed on August 23, 2002 and November 20, 2002 (respectively). No initialed copies of the PTO-1449s have been received back from the Examiner.

To the extent that the submitted references listed on the Form PTO-1449s have not already been considered, and the Form PTO-1449s have not been initialed with copies being returned to Applicant, such examination and Initialing is requested at this time, as well as return of copies of the initialed Form PTO-1449s to the undersigned.

This application is now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview prior to issuance of any such subsequent action.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5-9-03

By: 
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